

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 01980 151142Z

21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4961

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1980

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP, FR

SUBJECT: KINGS VISIT TO FRANCE

1. WHILE I WAS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER AREILZA MORNING MARCH 13 HE TALKED BY TELEPHONE WITH THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR ABOUT THE KING'S VISIT TO FRANCE. AREILZA TOLD THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR THAT THE KING WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO GO TO FRANCE TOWARD THE END OF MAY AS HE PLANS TO BE LEAVING MADRID ON MAY 29 EN ROUTE TO THE UNITED STATES (WHERE HE WILL NOT ARRIVE PRESUMABLY UNTIL MAY 31 OR JUNE 1). AREILZA SUGGESTED THAT THE KING'S VISIT TO FRANCE COULD EITHER BE DURING THE PERIOD JUNE 10-23 OR JUNE 25-30. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TOLD AREILZA THIS WAS NOT POSSIBLE AND IT WAS AGREED THAT THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR WOULD SEE WHETHER DATES EARLIER IN MAY COULD BE WORKED OUT. AREILZA TOLD ME THAT THE KING'S VISIT TO FRANCE WOULD BE FOR NO MORE THAN THREE DAYS AND POSSIBLY WOULD BE LESS.

2. COMMENT IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE FRENCH ARE EAGER FOR THE KING TO VISIT FRANCE BEFORE RATHER THAN AFTER HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. THIS WOULD SEEM TO FIT IN WITH INDICATIONS WE HAVE RECEIVED THAT THERE IS SOME UNHAPPINESS IN EUROPE THAT HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT MIGHT NOT BE TO A EUROPEAN COUNTRY.
STABLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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